



Orencia School Times



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October, 2008

A Message from our Principal, Mr. Bishop

Dear Students and Parents:

Thank you for your attendance at Back-to-School Night. We trust that you have a better insight and additional knowledge about your child's educational program. Your support, questions, and assistance will help your child reach their goals and be successful in school.

As the "routines" in school fall into place, it's important to remind us that there is nothing "routine" in the effort children put forth while in school or on work at home. Their effort is vital to recognize and reinforce. This factor is one of many that determine high achievement but the only factor a child has a choice in applying.

Our first "professional looking" art gallery featuring student works is on display. Stop by to take a look. This month's Character Trait/Lifeskills includes Responsibility and Organization. Classrooms will do activities centered on these themes.

We have also planned to hold several building-wide activities, of which groups of differing grade level students will work together. Overall everything is running well, and the kids are really enthusiastic about school.

Tim Bishop and the Orencia Team



HOMEWORK: Homework is one means of teaching the necessary skills of individual study and learning for present and future use. The work builds a bridge between children's lives in school and at home, reinforces newly learned skills, and increases the amount of learning time to master concepts. Above all, homework is a responsibility that the student should learn to take independently. In the Elementary Handbook, you will find homework rationales and guidelines. Do take time to discuss a homework routine that is best for everyone. Assignments will be given Monday through Thursday and an activity of reading will always be included. Please contact your child's teacher if you need any clarification.



UP-and-COMING

Mark your calendar for these events:

October 15th-17th
Parent Conferences

October 24th
Spirit Day

October 11th
Kinder Pictures

October 29th-30th
Hearing Screening

October 31st
Vision Screening

November 3rd
Picture Retakes

November 7th
Splash Cash

November 11th
Veteran's Day—No School

November 12th
Next Newsletter Sent Home

November 14th
Booster Club's Bingo Night

November 18th
Booster Club Meeting, 2:30





ORCA LIVE:

Each Thursday afternoon at 1:45 sharp, Orenco's student-run live news-cast is broadcasted. Facilitated by Mr. Bunker and Mr. Futter the crew of: Decker Strom, Zack James, Hannah Solheim, Jose Lopez, Brisco Liddell, Skyler Platt, Sabrina Ouellette, Courtney Leloff, Charlie Keene, Tessa Moody, David Spurgeon, Calley Estocapio, Amanda Croskrey and Sydney Smalley, feature stories on the activities taking place around the school, field trips, staff profiles and live remotes. It is great fun and amazing how much students enjoy watching. Latest Orca Live broadcasts can be viewed on the web at <http://www.hsd.k12.or.us/orenco/> It is definitely the highlight of the week! Thanks crew!

SPLASH CASH:

With the use of the Accelerated Reading software program, our students increase their reading achievement. They first read a book, then take a comprehension test on the computer. Based upon their score, they receive points. These points are then exchanged for "Splash Cash". Four times during the year the students are able to exchange their "cash" for prizes. The program motivates everyone to read more and it produces a lot of excitement., Be sure to ask your child about this.

ATTENDANCE:

Regular school attendance has been shown to affect students' academic progress, grades and development of positive work habits. District attendance procedures operate on the assumption that 95 percent of students have no attendance problems. We also assume parents are in the best position to make determinations regarding their child's attendance. The school's primary role in attendance accounting is to work cooperatively with parents and to assist students in developing habits of responsibility and dependability.

The Board considers regular school attendance essential for educational success. All students are expected to attend school as required by law (ORS 339.010) and by Board policy.

The principal will be responsible for assessing and acting upon parental requests for students to be excused. It is in the student's best interest that parents pre-arrange an excused absence. Criteria for excused absences may include:

1. Illness/injury/quarantine
2. Necessary family travel, education, occupational interviews
3. Bereavement
4. Serious illness in the family
5. Religious instruction
6. Inclement weather
7. Emergencies
8. Legal, court appointments requiring the student's attendance

The principal may also excuse requests for necessary family travel. Medical professionals may also request a student be granted an excused absence.

A student's grade will not be reduced nor will credit be denied as a direct consequence of excused absences. However, even excused absences may affect the student's academic performance. A student who is excused must still fulfil school and class requirements.

In order for a student to participate in after-school activities such as music programs, plays, or athletic programs, the student must be in school at least one-half of the regular academic school day.

STUDENT COUNCIL:

The purpose of this group is to help build responsibility and generate input on the part of students. Members represent all children and help to develop new programs, special activities, and serve as problem solvers as well as solution creators. Council reps are: Chris Phillips, Jose Lopez, Hunter Gates, Amber Lewis, Alicia Verdun, Nicole Dorciak and Chloe Wiggins.



HILLSBORO SKI CLUB:

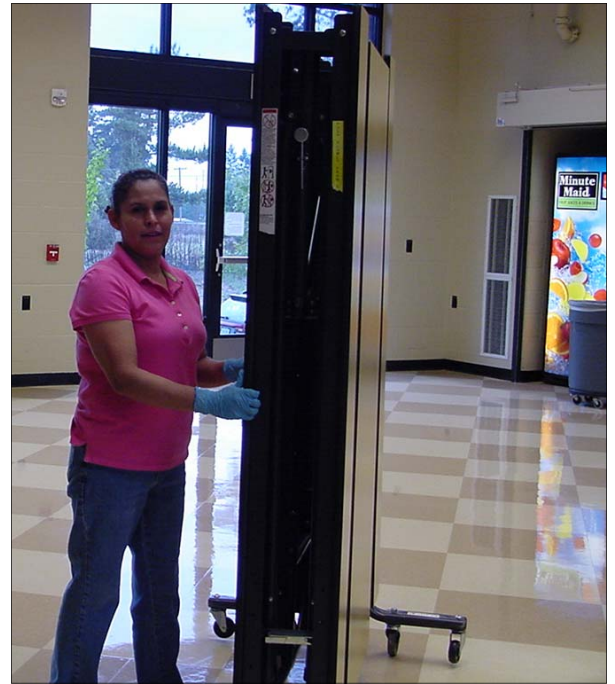
Hillsboro Ski Club is ready to take snowboarders and skiers in grades K through 12 (and their families) to Mt. Hood Meadows for recreational skiing/snowboarding on Saturdays. We offer two four-week sessions: January 10-31, and February 7-28, 2009. The club offers program packages for all levels with discounts on lessons, lifts, rentals or combinations of these services. Transportation is by luxury coach and leaves from Poynter Middle School at 6:15AM on Saturday mornings. Busses are chaperoned and advisors monitor the medical clinic hourly. This program is for students



WELCOME NEW STAFF MEMBERS!



STEVE
JOHNSON
PE



ESTHER
GARCIA
CUSTODIAN



HONI
LUNSFORD
SPEECH

Fabulous Fourth Grade!

Look at all the fantastic things we are doing this year in fourth grade!



Famous Quotes From 4th Graders

- ✍️ “I love the reports we do and I even think homework is fun.” Jacob R.
- ✍️ “I like having Gotcha parties with Mrs. Beale and the class.” Tyler
- ✍️ “Mrs. Lusk is a nice, fun teacher. Especially art is fun because Mrs. Lusk loves it.” Libby
- ✍️ “What I like about 4th grade is reading time. It is so fun when you read a new story.” Aisha
- ✍️ I am having a spectacular time in 4th grade.”Alexandria
- ✍️ “My favorite thing so far in fourth grade is science. It is really fun and cool and you learn new things.” Teresa
- ✍️ “I love 4th grade math. It is so fun and challenging!” Stephanie

- ✍️ Literacy for 90 minutes a day which includes reading, spelling, comprehension, and writing.
- ✍️ Math for 60 minutes a day which includes facts, equations, problem solving, and graphs.
- ✍️ Our first trimester units are: marine mammals, elections, geography and Native Americans of Oregon, Lewis and Clark, and Rainbow Trout.
- ✍️ We also work on life skills, art, and an upcoming school wide musical program.

